

Four Box Synectics

This exercise encourages divergent thinking.

Teacher Preparation:

1. Make enough copies of the handout (4-9-2) for each group of four students to have one.

Lesson Plan:

1. Have students get in groups of 4.
2. Distribute the handout (4-9-2), one to each group.
3. For each of the 4 boxes, call out a category (e.g., commonly found household objects, animals, things found in a forest, recreational activities, foods, etc.) and have students write one item in that category in the box.
4. Give students 3 minutes to brainstorm 4 sentences using the topic of the lesson in the first blank and each item in the boxes in the second blank.
5. Have each group choose the 2 sentences they like best and share them with the class.

Adapted from a workshop conducted by Daniel R. Moirao for the Academically Gifted Department of the Wake County Public School System in November, 2006.

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A _____ is like a _____

because _____

A _____ is like a _____

because _____

A _____ is like a _____

because _____

A _____ is like a _____

because _____

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